involving common question of law, constitution of specialized benches, organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals encouraging alternative modes of dispute resolution like negotiation, mediation and arbitration, and setting up of special tribunals like Central Administrative Tribunals, State Administrative Tribunals, Income Tax Appellate Tribunals, Family Courts and Labour courts. The Government has extended the term of existing 1562 Fast Track Courts for another five years *i.e.* upto 31.3.2010 for clearing huge pendency of cases at District level.

High Court Bench in Thiruvananthapuram

823. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have intimated the State Government of Kerala to provide infrastructure facilities for setting up of High Court Bench in Thiruvananthapuram;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Kerala have expressed their willingness to provide the same;

(c) whether any steps are pending with Government to set up the High Court Bench as assured and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the stage at which are setting up of High Court Bench stands at present and the formalities which are required and to be completed on the part of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) Setting up of a Bench of a High Court is considered on receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned. However, no such complete proposal in this regard has been received.

Increase in strength of judges in Supreme Court

824. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the strength of judges of Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (c) The strength of the Judges in the Supreme Court is provided under article 124(1) of the Constitution, as amended from time to time. Any change in the number of Judges in the Supreme Court is made with the amendment of the Constitution by bringing legislation before the Parliament. As the requisite information from the Supreme Court has not been received in this regard, no such legislative proposal has been moved.

Action against lawyers stalling working of courts

825. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that General Secretary of Rohini Bar Association along with a number of lawyers and media persons were injured in the violence, which broke out between Rohini Bar Association and members of Delhi Bar Association who did not permit them to enter in Session Court to represent clients;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the names of Delhi Bar Association Lawyers involved in violence; and

(c) whether Government propose to cancel the registration of lawyers of Delhi Bar Association who prevented the Rohini lawyers to enter the courts and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) The lawyers under the banner of Delhi Bar Association have been on strike from 2nd January, 2006 in protest against the shifting of some courts from Tis Hazari to the new Court Complex at Rohini.

(b) On 06.01.2006 at the inauguration of the Rohini Court, the advocates went to Rohini Court and shouted abusive slogans and created nuisance. Thereafter, they have been obstructing the working of the Tis Hazari and Rohini Courts.